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FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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TAMING THE PRIMEVAL FOREST

Doctors at Work in the Heart of Amazonia

A FEW weeks ago the CN told of Unesco's plans for developing the Amazon Valley, or Hylea. Since then more information has been made available as to the suitability of this damp, steaming region for displaced persons from Europe.

A favourable answer to the question of the resettlement of DPs in this part of South America has been given by Dr Oswaldo José da Silva, director of the medical, sanitation, and water service set up in the Amazon Valley by the United Nations during the war, and known as Sesp (Servico Especial de Saude Publico). Dr da Silva says that Europeans can thrive in Amazonia, and he ought to know, for he controls 29 health centres in the area, each with a doctor and assistants who provide free health service. In addition there are 26 sub-posts manned by male nurses. Many of these advance posts of civilisation, however, are inaccessible at certain times of the year owing to flooding, while others can be reached only by laborious journeys along riverways walled in on both sides by jungle.

The enemies against which these devoted members of Sesp wage ceaseless and unrelenting warfare are legion. Malaria, yellow fever, leprosy, tuberculosis, smallpox, and hookworm are only a few of them. Nor do the natives, in whom ignorance, superstition, and idleness have become ingrained during the centuries, do much to help themselves. Although with a very little effort they could produce food which was health-giving and nutritious they prefer to lead a hand-to-mouth existence which leaves them with no reserves of

strength and vitality with which to combat disease. As a consequence Sesp does no more valuable work than in guiding the people's diet.

The most dangerous enemy in the whole of Amazonia is a small insect with a large name—the mosquito anopheles darlingi—which spreads malaria at an alarming rate. This problem, too, Sesp has tackled boldly.

The main breeding grounds of the mosquito are at the water reservoir of Belem, at the mouth of the Amazon, and on flood ground seasonably covered by the waters of the Para river. An attempt to keep down their numbers was begun last year when a DDT "fence" was erected round the reservoirs.

Fighting the Mosquito

An even more ambitious project is a £200,000 dyke which has been built round three sides of the town. This has an ingenious system of water sluices which work automatically, closing at high tide and opening at low tide. In this way the flood water is drained off and the land made less suitable as a breeding ground for mosquitos.

By such methods as these, Dr da Silva claims, the vast and almost trackless forests of Amazonia may be made fit for human habitation. Already Sesp has plans for 25 more health centres and seven more hospitals within the next five years.

It is inspiring to read of this struggle by civilised man against the dangers and diseases of the primeval jungle. If the struggle is successful it will unlock the door to one of the richest economic regions of the world.

The Woman Who Was Not

L'ABBÉ BREUIL is puzzled. It must be for the first time, for this greatest of French archaeologists is famous for the ruthless decision which has dismissed impostures, and one lot of ancient fragments as a collection of bric-à-brac.

But perhaps he will not remain baffled by the mysterious rock painting of a white woman found in the Brandberg Mountains in Namaqualand, Cape Colony. He led an archaeological expedition there and spent ten days studying the cave and its contents, but still could not say why a painting which might be 5000 to 7000 years old should bestow on the woman shoes and ankle bands. If she did not wear them, we may be sure that L'Abbé Breuil will say so in no uncertain manner.

WRAPPED UP



Not a visitor from another world, but an American soldier dressed in an experimental sleeping bag used during Army manoeuvres.

Bottled Mail Aids the Map-Makers

TRACKING OCEAN CURRENTS

MR C. MHIMA, who recently found on a beach in New Zealand a curiously-shaped bottle containing directions for finding hidden treasure, has passed on the map and bearings to his Government in the hope that it will finance an expedition to Cocos Island, to recover the pirate horde.

If Mr Bill Watt, of Maryland, however, had found it he would probably have taken similar action regarding the papers and then sent off another message in the bottle, for Mr Watt works for the U S Navy's Hydrographic Office and is postmaster to half the world's bottled mail. The messages are in English, French, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Esperanto, and are appeals to the finders to return the messages to him, stating the date and place where they were found.

Across the Atlantic

As his appeals include notes on the bearings of the ship that dropped them overboard, and the date of "posting," he can calculate the direction and speed of ocean currents. Most of the bottles dropped off the Atlantic coast of America drift to Europe, while those dropped off the Pacific side generally turn up off the Philippines.

So regular are ocean currents that another organisation, the International Bottle Club, conducts correspondence by bottle mail. An Australian officer, Colonel Edward P. Bailey, founded it in 1926, when he received letters from all parts of the world in answer to letters he had thrown overboard while travelling from Vancouver to Sydney. One message, picked up near San Francisco, re-posted and picked up again at Lima and Monte Video, sailed round the Horn and arrived on the beach at Charlestown, South Carolina. Since then, mail popped into the sea near Kamchatka arrived three years later in Chile.

Down the Rhine

On more than one occasion membership of the club has proved useful to prisoners-of-war. One Englishman contrived to post a bottle in the Rhine and for two months it hopped along, passing through the closely-guarded Kiel Canal to Russia, where the British Consul at Leningrad received it and sent on its message to the prisoner's home in the Midlands.

Most of the "bottle" information, however, is used for making additions to charts, and, curiously enough, the practice was so common in Queen Elizabeth's reign that she appointed an official Uncorker of Bottles, whose job it was to report direct to her Government on the contents of any message that came to England by ocean current.

BUCKET-AND-SPADE PLANE



The young holiday-makers at Northolt Aerodrome have a chat with the pilot of the plane which is to take them to the Channel Islands. This service has been dubbed the "Bucket-and-Spade Special" by the aerodrome staff.

THE CANAL THAT NOTHING STOPPED

THE old Duke of Bridgewater if he were alive would be a glad man today if he knew that his Bridgewater Canal, begun nearly two centuries ago, was now to be deepened for three miles of its length.

They thought he was the mad Duke of Bridgewater then, especially when they learned that he was employing James Brindley, who could not read or write, to construct the waterway that eventually gave birth to the Manchester Ship Canal, linking

Manchester with Liverpool and the Sea.

James Brindley, the gifted engineer, began the work for him at Worsley, where the Duke's ancestral home was, and from Worsley now the deepening begins. Today we may see how great a feat this canal was, that flows at one point 39 feet above the River Irwell and at another many feet below, a scheme for which he fought in spite of all jeers and legal hindrance till it was done.

MOULDY MARY

MOULDY MARY might seem a rather unkind way of recognising a contribution to science, for that was what Mary was. She was sent by her fellow scientists to market each day to bring back anything mouldy, and that was because moulds have now become of great importance, since Sir Alexander Fleming discovered the one that yielded penicillin.

So when Mary one day came back with a decayed canteloupe melon, the research men got from it 100 times more penicillin than Sir Alexander obtained when he first distilled it from a mould in 1928.

Flying Missionaries

OVER forty wartime pilots will soon be flying to distant parts of the earth, to drop—not bombs but Bibles.

The Missionary Aviation Fellowship has planned this campaign to bring the Gospel to heathen parts of the world. Thus will missionary work be speeded up.

The first flight will be to the Belgian Congo, in a twin-engined Miles Gemini called the Mildmay Pathfinder, the Fellowship's operations room being at the Mildmay Centre, Newington Green. This plane, dedicated by the Chaplain-General to the R A F, is visiting several places in Britain before it departs.

THE "FAMILY MEETING" AT CANBERRA

A CONFERENCE of great importance has recently taken place at Canberra, capital of Australia. Its aim was to find out the views of the British nations with regard to making a satisfactory peace with Japan.

This is an important subject, not only because the time is coming when Allied nations who have been at war with Japan will have to draw up a peace treaty; it is also important because a false opinion has been gaining ground that Britain and the British Commonwealth are no longer vitally interested in what is going on in Japan. But, whatever our troubles at home and in Europe, it is not true to say that we are no longer interested in the Far East. Most of the 500 million people of the British Commonwealth of Nations actually live east of Suez. This country and other members of the Commonwealth have great economic interests in the Far East, which is a great source of food, oil, and textiles.

Australia's Concern

Australia, in addition to important commercial interests, has a very vital strategic interest in seeing Japan become a peace-loving nation. Only a few years ago the great Australian Continent lay under the shadow of a Japanese invasion, and the fear of those dark days has lived in the Australians ever since. They are now determined that the Japanese shall never become a menace to their peace and security.

These are the reasons why the Australian Government invited members of the British Commonwealth to Canberra. From the United Kingdom went a delegation of 40 persons, led by Lord Addison, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations (this is the new name of the former Dominions Office), and Mr Hector McNeil, Minister of State. Canada, South Africa, and New Zealand were represented; and so were Burma, India, and Pakistan.

Modest Demands

The aim of this "family meeting" was to exchange ideas about peace with Japan, but not to decide finally what position the British nations should take up at the coming Peace Conference. There is no intention of forming a "bloc" which could outvote other nations. It is already known that our demands on Japan will be rather modest. There is certainly no desire to inflict crippling punishment on the Japanese people. On the other hand, Britain, Australia, and other members of the Commonwealth want to see Japan reasonably prosperous, paying her own way, and trading with the whole world. The conference favoured loans to aid Japan's economic recovery, these loans being based on Japan's own gold and silver.

The point, however, on which the British nations are absolutely firm is the disarming of Japan and the keeping of her under international supervision. There must never rise in Japan an armaments industry, an army, navy, or air force capable of challenging the world—state the Commonwealth nations. Some

proposals go so far as to suggest a complete prohibition of the Japanese handling any aircraft, civil or military. International air lines, according to these proposals, should be in the hands of the Allies acting through an international corporation. And, finally, it is suggested that Japan should be deprived of all territories outside the four main islands of Japan proper—a situation already in existence, and agreed to at the Yalta Conference. For nearly all Japanese-controlled islands—and there were hundreds of them before and during the war—were captured or otherwise seized by the U.S., and the U.S. has now been permitted by the United Nations to keep them in trust. On the other hand, in accordance with a secret agreement between the Allies, the Russians have been permitted to occupy the one-time Russian-owned Kurile Islands.

Some Other Problems

The task of the Peace Conference on Japan will be to decide what shall be the final shape of Japan and her duties to the world. But the heritage of the Japanese war is much graver, and there is still no way out in sight. The question of the China civil war, the partition of Korea, the struggle between the Dutch and the Indonesians—these are just a few important questions urgently awaiting solution. Without their solution there can be no real peace in the Far East.

New Ways With Old Pests

Is there any newer and better way of ridding civilisation of two of its most persistent enemies, the malarial mosquito, which is half as old as Time, and the tsetse fly which has ravaged Africa ever since we have known it as the Dark Continent?

Dr J. L. Simonson, F.R.S., suggested at Dundee that a newer way of eliminating the mosquito from isolated areas has been found by applying the best of the new insecticides, and that we might free islands such as Cyprus, Trinidad, and Mauritius completely, and possibly large areas of British Guiana and Uganda. Eliminating tsetse fly is harder, but we may still find better ways than now of facing it with insecticide.

The Red Hose Race

A PAIR of red stockings was the curious prize for the winner of the historic mile-long Red Hose Race, the oldest foot race in Great Britain, which took place recently at Carnwath, Lanarkshire.

To maintain his title to the ancient Lee and Carnwath Estates the laird must hold this race every year and give a pair of red hose to the winner. This race, which was suspended during the war only by special Crown consent, is now 447 years old. The laird's wife presented the red stockings to the winner.

What the Cost of Living Index Is

A NEW cost-of-living index based on new calculations has recently been built up and came into operation the other day. What is a cost-of-living index and what are its uses?

A few months ago the two-penny bus fare went up to 2½d. The price of coal is to go up by at least 4s a ton. On the other hand, a pound of cheese now costs 10d against 1s 1d a year ago. But more prices go up than fall today. Now, unrelated general statements of this kind are not good enough for people whose job it is to know exactly how much has the cost of living gone up. Officials trying to find out if demands for higher wages are justified must, for example, have a yardstick, a pointer, or an "index" of how much our pound sterling can buy.

A List of Goods

Such an instrument is given to them by the cost-of-living index. The idea of the index is very simple. A list is made up of goods that are essential and which are normally bought by us over a fixed period—say a week or month. Into the cost-of-living "basket," therefore, come food, clothing, rent, light. The prices of these goods are carefully noted down and the sum total expressed not in £ s d but as 100 per cent, or simply 100. Suppose a year after the original index has been compiled the prices of meat and bread go up. The officials who look after the index will note that more money is needed to buy these foods compared with a year before. It may be a little extra, a bare one or two per cent, but immediately the index reacts and we see the curve of the cost of living, the cost of our "basket of necessities," rise from 100 to 101, 102, or even more, as the case may be.

Out-of-Date Yardstick

There is, however, one snag in the cost-of-living measurement. Just as a yardstick must always be the same, so must the "basket" of our necessities by which we measure the cost of living, that is if we are to get useful comparisons. But, unlike the yardstick, our own tastes and with them our purchases change continuously. The old index we have just abolished was based on purchases by an average family in 1914—before most C.N. readers were born. Essential needs have changed since 1914.

These are the reasons why the Ministry of Labour has now introduced a new cost-of-living index based on the type of purchases housewives normally make these days. It is more realistic and will help, in due course, to find out better the buying power of the pound sterling.

TEASEL HARVEST

One of the lesser-known harvests has been taking place down in Somerset, where they have been gathering teasels. The harvest is likely to help our export drive, for the cultivated, or fuller's, teasel, has bracts which are used for producing or teasing a fine nap on cloth. Hence its name. It is a strange fact that no mechanical substitute for teasel heads has ever been found.

The fuller's teasels just harvested will go to North Country cloth mills.

WORLD NEWS REEL

EIGHT-MILE JUMP. The world's parachute high jumping record of 36,210 feet, has been broken recently by three Russian parachutists. The new record jump was from 43,962 feet.

The Turkish Government have announced a plan for agricultural and industrial rehabilitation costing £125,000,000.

A new world's airspeed record has been set up by a jet-propelled Douglas Skystream with an average speed of 640 miles an hour.

Liberia has joined Unesco, being its 31st member.

A bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi, 150 feet high, is to be set up in Bombay Harbour.

Latin is again to be taught in certain higher grades of schools in Russia.

ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL. The 12-year-old King Feisal of Iraq, who is going to school in Dorset, travelled from Calais to Dover in a British destroyer.

HOME NEWS REEL

ROOM ON TOP. A Windsor bus conductor has been promoted to chief inspector by London Transport.

A new unofficial British record for controlled model aircraft has been made by a jet-propelled plane with a speed of 98 miles an hour.

The 30,000-ton liner, Caronia, sister ship to the Mauretania, will be launched by Princess Elizabeth on October 30 at Clydebank.

INTREPID. A 19-year-old girl, Marie Anderson, travelled 268 miles from Sunderland in her motor invalid chair to spend a holiday in London.

Middlesex are the first southern county to win the cricket championship since they themselves won it in 1921. They have been runners-up five times in succession.

A youth in court recently who had described himself as a "retail food distributor," agreed on being questioned that he meant errand boy.

WEDDING CAKE. The Royal chef at Buckingham Palace is to make the cake for Princess Elizabeth's wedding breakfast.

Some 75 R.A.F. stations will be open to the public on Saturday, September 20, to mark the seventh anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

During a match against a team of Dutch athletes, Margaret Lucas, of Epsom, set up a new women's record for the discus with a throw of 127 feet 3½ inches.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

GUIDING IN ITALY. Professor Emma Dalmaso, secretary and trainer to the Italian Federation of Girl Guides, is to have three months' training in Guide work in Britain and U.S.A., thanks to the generosity of American Girl Scouts. Guiding and Scouting, banned during the Fascist régime, are developing rapidly in Italy.

Fourteen Sea Scouts of the 1st South Shields Troop are going to Norway on September 20 as guests of the 5th Hargesund Scouts.

Oxford Scouts have been helping to take a census of the traffic passing through the city, and over a period of three days they took the registration number of all motor vehicles.

All the recent New Zealand health stamps bear a picture of the Eros statue in Piccadilly Circus.

In the U.S. more than 800 people had incomes of over £18,750 in 1945. The highest was a theatre financier's £142,000.

PALESTINE REPORT. The United Nations Palestine Inquiry Committee has issued its Report, the majority recommending the partition of Palestine between the Jews and Arabs except for Jerusalem, which should be placed under international trustees.

Canada had 21,000 immigrants in the first six months of this year, including over 11,000 from this country and 4000 from the U.S.

The recent general election in Hungary resulted in a victory for the present Coalition Government, the Communists showing a big gain and the Small-Holders Party a big drop. One Opposition party, however, received 35 per cent of the votes cast.

SCOTTISH WIN. The 21st Boys' Golf Championship has been won by 17-year-old James Armour of Troon. This is the fourth successive occasion on which a youth from north of the Border has won.

The red ensign worn by the Aquitania during the Second World War has been presented by Cunard White Star to the English Episcopal Church at Wemyss Bay.

The year 1945 was the healthiest ever recorded in England and Wales.

Mr Roger Pears of Farnborough, Kent, glided 55 miles from Redhill to Cowes and became the first man to glide to the Isle of Wight.

A 74-year-old Sussex woodman cycled 900 miles during a fortnight's holiday.

NEW COLLEGE. As a memorial to Archbishop Temple a Church of England theological college for women is to be opened in October. Until suitable buildings are available in a university town the William Temple College will be at the Old Rectory, Hawarden, Flintshire.

Hastings is to have a new reservoir of some 900 million gallons, covering 600 acres.

Eighty-one architects from all over the country sent designs for a £500,000 technical college at Peterborough. The competition was won by Mr David Jenkins, a lecturer at a London school.

The British Association has launched a £100,000 fund for the development of its all-important scientific work.

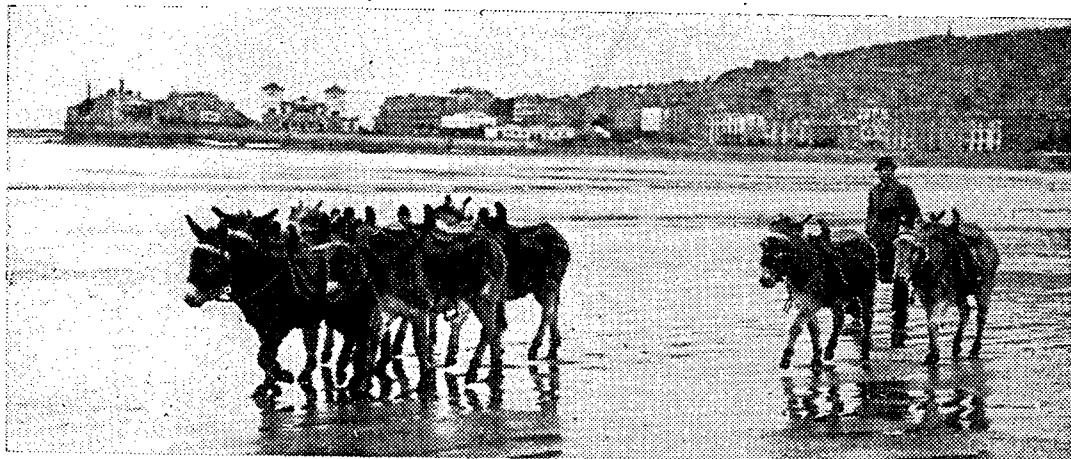
CAMPING ADVENTURES.

During their week in camp on the Norfolk coast boys of a Northamptonshire group of B.B. companies were responsible for saving a girl from drowning, stopping a runaway horse and landau, and extinguishing a fire in a field of pincut barley.

Following their visit to the Sixth World Jamboree at Moisson in France, 80 Scouts from Iceland camped near Maldstone in Kent, as guests of local Scouts.

More than 500 Boys Brigade officers from various parts of Britain and from overseas have been attending the Annual Meeting of the Brigade Council at Nottingham. There was a civic reception in Nottingham Castle.

The Children's Newspaper, September 13, 1947



At the End of Day

The summer is drawing to a close, but the donkeys are still in great demand, and after a busy day on the sands at Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset, they trot homewards for a well-deserved rest.

Fish, Rabbits, Rats, and Mice

AMONG the contributions which Zoology makes to our way of life are those affecting our food. Dr Edward Hindle has been reminding us that when a great amount of the fish caught in the Bristol Channel was being thrown away a zoologist suggested that if it were cooked in superheated steam, as Denis Papin did three centuries ago in the Digestor, which was recently described in the CN, it could be converted into excellent fish paste.

Dr Hindle added the unexpected facts that house mice were more difficult to control than rats; that four and a half rabbits consume as much pasture as one sheep; and that America spends proportionately seven times as much in protecting food from insect pests as Great Britain.

EARLY SCOTTISH MAPS

MORE than 200 Scottish maps produced before the first Ordnance Survey was made last century are on exhibition in the Royal Scottish Geographical Society's Rooms in the Synod Hall, Edinburgh.

Included in the collection is the famous one made by Ptolemy about AD 150. Other interesting exhibits—souvenirs of a journey to Scotland that did not come off—are several maps prepared by the Germans for their invasion of this country.

Gleaning in the Cornfields

IN most parts of the country the grain harvest is now ended and people are gleaning in the fields, permission from the farmers having been obtained first. It is an age-old practice.

A country reader tells us that practically all the people went gleaning in the village where her girlhood was spent, and that enough waste corn was picked up to keep the family of her household, including six children, supplied with flour for the entire winter. The gleaned corn, beaten out, was taken to the miller, who ground it for them, reserving a certain percentage as commission.

After the corn harvest the villagers were permitted to glean the fields where the bulk of the potatoes had been lifted and carried, and what to small con-

IDEAS WANTED

MANY firms find it profitable to offer substantial prizes for suggestions made by employees for improving the efficiency of their business. Not long ago a large North Country firm paid a workman £150 for an idea, and London Transport have announced that they will give a minimum of £1 and no limit as to the maximum award to their employees for useful suggestions.

Troubled Trio



These cubs at the London Zoo seem rather indignant at being put in such an undignified position.

Battlefield For Sale

A BATTLEFIELD is being offered for sale at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Part of the Woolerton Estate, which lies between Alnwick and Wooler, in Northumberland, it is the site of the Battle of Hedgeley Moor, fought on April 25, 1464, during the Wars of the Roses.

sumers seemed huge quantities were recovered and carried home, to last practically as long as the flour from the gleaned corn.

In olden days the country churches rang what was known as the Gleaning Bell, which fixed the time for beginning and ending the gleaning for the day, so giving everyone a fair start and an even chance.

The Bible, also, has its recommendations concerning gleaning. The farmer is there told not to make "a clean riddance" of the corners of his field, nor to gather the gleanings of the harvest: "Thou shalt leave them unto the poor and to the stranger." One of the most beautiful of Old Testament stories, too, is that of Ruth, who gleaned barley and corn in the fields of Boaz, whom she afterwards married.

Children's Concerts

THERE are to be more Children's Saturday morning concerts at eleven o'clock at the Central Hall, Westminster, beginning on October 18.

The dates of the Robert Mayer Concerts for Children are: October 18, November 8, December 6, January 3, January 24, February 21, March 6, and April 24. Full particulars together with application forms are being sent to subscribers. Non-subscribers can obtain application forms from the Secretary, Robert Mayer Concerts for Children, 3 Lombard Street, London, EC3.

The dates of the Ernest Read concerts are: October 25, November 22, December 13, January 31, February 14, March 13, and May 8. Tickets for the Ernest Read concerts must be obtained from the Box Office, Central Hall, but more information about the concerts may be obtained from the Organising Secretary, 151 King Henry's Road, Hampstead, NW3.

POPULAR BOWLS

THE game of bowls has had its greatest season ever, and the English Bowling Association states that there are now over one and a half million players in the country. This includes many thousands of women players.

There was a time in years gone by when young people used to consider bowls a game for old gentlemen, but since the war more and more young players have taken up the game. The popularity of this quiet, intimate sport is on the upgrade from the spectators' point of view, too, and this summer the big championships have been watched by many thousands of people.

Most well-known sports began in a small way, and it may be that bowls will follow in the footsteps of lawn tennis and be staged on special rinks where crowds of several thousands can be accommodated.

KORFBALL

A GAME little known in this country has been introduced from Holland. It is called korfbal, and is very popular among Dutch youth. Last year two of their best teams came to England and gave exhibitions of this game, which is described as being similar to American basketball, but requiring more skill and a pitch as large as a football field. Each side has twelve players, six men and six women. This year a British National Korfbal Association has been formed.

Away With Those Spears!

NATIVE fishermen of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean will shortly put away spears and cast-nets, which have been used in their island to catch fish for centuries, in favour of the most modern fishing equipment it is possible to get.

Their spears bring them barely enough fish for their own families and villages, but when the new methods and equipment are introduced there will be enough to supply every need on their island.

This change will be wrought by a vessel, formerly a drifter named Royal Sovereign, which is now fitting out at Shadwell Basin in the Port of London. She has been taken over by the Colonial Office, renamed Fishery Research Vessel No 1, and is about to start on the 7000-mile journey to Mauritius. When she gets

there the skipper and mate will take on native crews and train them in the most modern methods of catching fish. Moreover, she will carry a staff of scientists who will work in a deck laboratory making experiments on how to increase the yield of the sea. As the ship will cruise in tropical waters for days on end the catches will be kept in a special refrigerator hold.

Taking advantage of the trip out to Mauritius are seven ex-Servicemen who want to settle in South Africa. They are "working their passages" by acting as part of the crew of nine, and when the ship docks will continue independently on to the country of their choice.

The Colonial Office hopes to operate more Fishery Research Vessels in other parts of the globe if No 1 is successful.

A ROBERT BURNS TREASURE?

MR P. MACKAY, of Wellington, in New Zealand, has discovered in his home there a manuscript of Robert Burns's "Scots Wha Hae" which is believed to be the original copy written by the poet.

Mr Mackay's father went to New Zealand from Banff in 1854, and the document must have been taken with him. It has been carefully studied by Mr R. H. Nimmo, life chieftain of the Caledonian Society, who said that it shows all the Burns's handwriting characteristics.

Should this indeed prove to be the original, it will be of very considerable value.

Milk Shortage

THE long spell of hot, dry weather has brought about a serious shortage of milk, and the ordinary ration has been reduced to two pints a week.

In normal summers, after the hay crop has been cut and carried, the grass quickly recovers and it is possible to turn cattle on to fresh, rich pastures, or sometimes even to cut a second crop of hay. But this year the prolonged spell of dry weather has killed off the grass, so that the fields which should be green and lush are now brown and dry. Cows cannot produce quantities of milk unless they have plenty of fresh feeding stuffs, so their milk yield has dropped.

Speech Goes Underground

IT has been revealed that a mighty telephone tunnel was constructed secretly during the war in the heart of London. It extends from the Holborn telephone exchange to the Faraday Building in Queen Victoria Street. The tunnel is 100 feet deep and seven feet wide, and accommodates 50,000 telephone wires.

It has long been the policy of the Post Office to place telephone wires underground, though not, of course, at the depth of this new London tunnel. In the London area alone there are now 6,502,000 miles of underground telephone wires; and in the country as a whole there are 21,915,000 miles of wire underground as against 1,853,000 miles overground.

THE GREATEST OF THESE IS CHARITY

A REPORT has been issued surveying six years of the operations of the Lord Mayor's National Air Raid Distress Fund from the time it started on September 10, 1940, to June 1946. During that period the Fund collected £4,713,245, the cost of administering which was only £27,497.

Within three and a half weeks of the Fund's opening, £1,000,000 was received, and in less than a year £3,000,000 was collected.



Sailor King

King Paul of Greece, who is a keen sailor, is here seen explaining the lines of a splendid model ship to his family in the drawing-room of the Royal Palace of Psychico, just outside Athens.



Timber From Abroad

Britain needs all the timber she can get and ship: from Canada, Finland, and Sweden are constantly arriving in this country prior to the winter freeze-up of harbours abroad. Finnish timber which has arrived at Millwall Dock, London, is here being loaded on to barges.

A RETURN VISIT TO HOLLAND

A captain who served as a Commando in Holland during the war has been revisiting the town of Bergen-op-Zoom accompanied by 18 boys of Mitcham Modern School, where he is now head teacher. He is Mr Geoffrey Wilson, and his party took as a gift a Japanese maple—the forerunner of a collection of birch saplings which the school is sending to Watcheren in the autumn. Here are some notes on the visit which Mr Wilson has written for the C.N.

Back in England, full of a host of miscellaneous impressions, gathered during our stay with the good people of Bergen-op-Zoom, we look back on a holiday, the success of which was due in no small degree to the hospitality and efficiency of our guide, Mr Klap. With him, we saw Zeeland and South Holland through the eyes of a native. He it was who tried to teach us the language of the white caps in Middelburg market-place. From him we learned the devastating fact that in Holland school starts at 8.30 a.m. and goes on until 5 p.m. with only one break at midday.

On our two Sundays there we went to church. Of course, we didn't understand a word of the service, but it interested us to see that in some Dutch churches the psalms are chanted with the congregation sitting, and whether one sits or stands to pray seems

to matter little, so long as one prays. The collections are taken in black bags, fixed on the ends of very long poles, which reach to every corner of the building.

For buses, trams, and trains there is no queueing. Neither did we see a "No Standing" rule in force. In fact, the train to Rotterdam was so crowded that, when it reached its destination and the doors opened, people sprang and tumbled out like effervescent ginger-beer from a well-shaken bottle, and as it was a hot day they were almost as moist.

I remember the people of Bergen-op-Zoom when every Englishman was an active liberator from nearly four terrible years of oppression. It was heartening to see the sons of some of those liberators made equally welcome in conditions far removed from the dark days of the Occupation.

Welcome to the Wallabies

BY THE C.N. SPORTSMAN

NEXT Saturday, at Camborne, Cornwall, the Wallabies will make their first appearance before an English crowd. The Wallabies are the third Australian Rugby Union party to visit Great Britain; the first was in 1908, when the team won 25 of their 31 matches.

There are 30 stalwart young Australians in the present party—to say nothing of "Walter," a stuffed wallaby that is their mascot. They have also brought with them a "scrum machine," a bulky apparatus looking rather like a number of railway buffers. On their liner, the Wallabies used

it to test their strength in scrummages, the "buffers" acting like opposing forwards, and as some of these Australians stand well over six feet and weigh between 15 and 16 stone, it is easy to realise that this scrum machine, loaned to them by a Sydney club, has to be tough to stand up to the strain.

The Rugby stars of Great Britain will also need to produce their best form if they are to win matches against these doughty fellows. We offer the Wallabies a warm welcome. May they enjoy every moment of their tour—win or lose!

A Battle For a Princess

WHEN young Edward VI came to England's throne, one of the main points in Protector Somerset's policy was to marry the king to the infant Princess Mary of Scotland, and thus unite the two kingdoms under one crown. So tactlessly did the Protector proceed with his plans, however, that before long the two countries were once again involved in war with one another.

In September 1547, just 400 years ago, Somerset led his army into the Lothians, and took up his position on high land overlooking the Firth of Forth. For two days the Scots occupied a similar position on some high land opposite, until, tiring of this inactivity, they advanced against the English. That was on September 10.

In the early stages of the battle, which was fought near the village of Pinkie, the Scots pikemen more than held their own against the Southern cavalry, but an English victory was assured when the Earl of Warwick hurled his reserves into the attack.

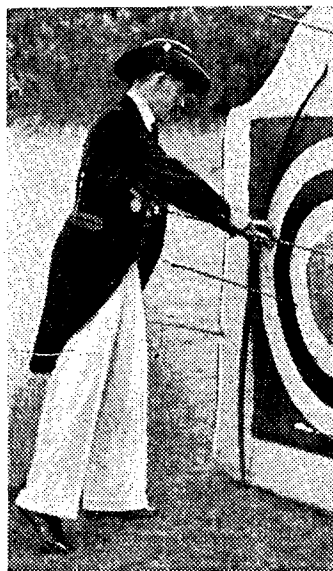
Somerset thus gained a resounding victory, but gained neither of the two objects for which the battle had been fought. The union of the two kingdoms was postponed for another 60 years—until James VI of Scotland became James I of Great Britain.

As for the little Princess Mary, who was to become the mother of James, she was straightway packed off to France, whence she returned, long after Edward's death, to live out her tragic life as the ill-fated Queen of Scots.

SCOTTISH ARCHERS WIN

RECENTLY, the King's bodyguard for Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers, competed with the Woodmen of Arden at Meriden, Warwickshire, and beat them by 13 points to 9. Since 1878, when the triennial matches started between the two societies, 20 archery matches have taken place, each having now won ten victories.

YESTERDAY & TODAY



The Archer

Green hats and coats with white trousers are worn by the Woodmen of Arden, who practise the ancient sport of archery in Shakespeare's Warwickshire. The Society was formed in 1785.

The Editor's Table

TWO WORLDS

UNESCO, the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation of the United Nations, is to attack, with all the power it can command, the world problem of illiteracy. Twelve months ago it asked a group of experts to shape a campaign, and they have now presented their report. It is a startling and challenging document.

We have boasted that our world is "One World," and modern transport communications have underlined the statement. Nevertheless, according to the experts of Unesco, there are Two Worlds: a world of those who can read and write and another of those who cannot; the silent symbols of pen and paper form a mighty barrier, separating the human family into two vast areas.

Asia as a whole is eighty to ninety per cent illiterate, the report tells us, while Africa has the lowest literacy rate of all the continents. These two continents contain half the human race, and, with persons unable to read or write counted in millions, represent one of mankind's chief problems.

LIVING in his primitive village and carrying on his farming in the manner of his ancestors, the small farmer of Asia may not appear unhappy. His wants are few—food, clothing, warmth, and a home, which he manages to get through constant struggle. He manages his life by an inherited and monotonous rule of thumb. Anything new is suspected as evil, and so his ways of farming proceed unchanged. Thus is the world's life slowed down to the pace of the most illiterate peasant, just as a convoy moves according to the pace of the slowest ship.

Not until a quickening of the mind through the magical ways of reading and writing can the depressed, illiterate half of the world be given a fresh start. And the determination of Unesco to attack illiteracy wherever it finds it is a major decision of modern times, one of the biggest hopes we have of a finer and fitter world.

Unesco proposes to marshal a band of expert advisers who will go to any part of the unenlightened world where a campaign of what it calls "fundamental education" is proposed. It realises that the mere ability to read and write is not enough—there must be books, papers, and schools, and the new ideas which flood in must be related to the ordinary affairs of daily living.

HERE is a war demanding the highest strategy and enthusiasm. If the burden of illiteracy can be lifted Man will have achieved a mighty victory, for it will mean that at last mankind will be truly one family—that at last there will really be One World, not Two.

Creating Confusion

THE "quiz" so popular in the form of the inquiry "Do you know" has been adopted by the Bureau of Current Affairs in an exhibition at Charing Cross Station. The question is asked, and three answers, two wrong and one correct, are printed opposite it, each with a button beside it. By pressing the button the inquirer learns whether his answer is right. The button presser has therefore two superfluous ideas suggested to him, and there is a grave risk that the memory may retain one of the wrong ones.

We think the method goes wrong in that there are three buttons instead of one; for two wrongs and one right will not lead to clear thinking. Why show two wrongs, anyway? Surely the better way is to state the question and let the pressing of the button light up the correct answer.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

RIGHTLY considering that a photograph is one of the best commercial travellers to tell our customers abroad what Britain is doing to pay its way, the Institute of British Photographers is opening an Exhibition at the Alpine Gallery, 74 South Audley Street, London, to show what our best photography can do. These are not simply photographs actually used for export promotion, but are chosen by specialists in many fields to give guidance on the appropriate use of photography to those who seek it. The photographs will be a selection of fine pictures to show how they are, and can be, employed, but will reveal photography's vitality and versatility as well as its power in salesmanship.

The Noisy Ones

A LARGE number of people seem to be conscious of existence only when they are making a noise. Schopenhauer

Under the E



PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW

If aeroplanes grow
on plane trees

A food expert says you cannot take mustard with lamb, it isn't done. But the lamb ought to be.

A HOLIDAY-MAKER complains that in her boarding-house there is nothing to read. What about the gas meter?

A CONSIGNMENT of clocks has been brought to this country by aeroplane. Time flies.

AT a certain theatre the scene designer was presented to the audience. Wonder what they did with him?

THINGS SAID

DREAMS are important—we cannot live without them—but they must always be spurs to fresh effort and not substitutes for effort.

Herbert Morrison, M P

BRITAIN will win through. It will take a year or two, but here is no doubt about it.

Sir Wilfrid Eady

NOBODY is going to kill the adventurous spirit of the British people.

Sir Frederick Bain

BRITAIN must work out her own salvation.

Lord Jowitt

EVERY workman and every executive should realise that his country's name is at stake with every article he turns out.

The Duke of Gloucester

Jack of All Trades

THE robber crab was born to climb coconut palms; but man," said Dr S. J. F. Philpott in a lively survey of man's adaptability the other day, "is more adaptable." Man turns his hand to many things. Born in this present age he may be a tank driver. Born under one of the Caesars, he might have been a Gladiator.

We cannot follow Dr Philpott through all his examples, but they all lead to the conclusion that in general man will become what he is best fitted to be. It may seem that he would have done fairly well as a craftsman, though in fact he became a teacher.

The fact of facts is that man is adaptable; but in whatever he does ultimately he must have the grit and determination to serve the necessary apprenticeship.

JUST AN IDEA

As Goethe wrote, Ambition and love are the wings of great actions.

Editor's Table

SOME tenants do not pay rent for years. Others do not pay it for houses.

□

SOME people think football starts too early in the year. It isn't cricket.

□

WOMEN are more ready than men to pay fancy prices. Men do not fancy them.

□

A FILM star says that for some parts it is difficult to know what make-up to use. She cannot make up her mind.



A MAN says it is amazing how everything shoots up in his garden. He ducks.

The Old and the New

WHILE excavating for the Ministry of Supply Rocket Propulsion Establishment at Westcott in Buckinghamshire, workmen came across the bones of a dinosaur, a creature which lived more than a hundred million years ago.

There were several members of the dinosaur family, which included the ichthyosaurus and the plesiosaurus. The first of these was rather like a fish with a long, fierce beak equipped with teeth, and flippers like a seal, while the plesiosaurus had a long, snake-like neck and a very small head in proportion to its size. It also had flippers as well as a long tail. Both creatures spent their lives chiefly in the water.

From these primitive monsters evolution has gone on through the ages until it has produced Man as its highest achievement so far. Now Man is not only learning how to harness the Atom, but is planning to produce projectiles which one day may carry him to planets far out in space. Here, at Westcott, the two extremes have met, the prehistoric Dinosaur, and Man reaching out for fresh worlds to explore.

—♦—

LOCH NESS MONSTER

THE famous Loch Ness monster may soon have a price on its head for the second time, for it has been announced that Bertram Mills's Circus are likely to make an offer for its capture alive.

Their previous offer, £20,000, was made just before the war, when the monster was more prominent in the news than in the loch. Then, however, Nessie managed to keep well out of reach, and we do not doubt that it will manage this again.

—♦—

Mistaken Identity

This amusing anecdote comes to us from a correspondent down in the West Country.

IT was one of the hottest days of the year. Passengers enjoying a steamer trip on the charming River Tamar, between Devon and Cornwall, longed for a refreshing cup of tea. How welcoming then, when the steamer put in at a riverside village, was the hail from a voice ashore: "Tea is all ready in the Church hall. Follow me."

The trippers needed no second bidding. Off they went, follow-my-leader style, congratulating themselves on their good fortune and soon taking their places at tables temptingly spread. Tea cups were filled when, to everyone's amazement, in came another party! This proved to be the right party—the party who had ordered the tea and for whom the preparations had been made.

Of course, everybody had a good laugh over the mistake, and the innocent gate-crashers graciously gave way to the rightful guests!

The Sun's Own Wireless

EVERYBODY has known of radio waves since we first heard them spreading sounds all over the world. But we had to wait for the war to teach us the many ways in which they are reflected and what radar, as it was named, could do. One of the most astonishing things since revealed by their study, as a speaker at the British Association pointed out, is that the Sun has its own wireless transmitter. It is immensely more powerful than any made by man, but the Sun is so far away (some 90 millions of miles) that we have at present no way of detecting it. But Sir Edward Appleton and Mr J. S. Hey have been able to show that when the Sun is stirred to producing sun-spots, we can hear these.

A sunspot is in fact the most powerful short-wave radio station known, its power equal to a million kilowatts. So then we can actually hear the Sun speak.

But this is not all. We can hear the Milky Way. The Milky Way's noise was at first put down to the Sun, but Mr J. G. Jansky of America now has proved that it is not only the Sun but also the Milky Way that speaks.

The Happy Peasant



A typical Korean peasant, unconscious of the turmoil in his country, goes out to work on his farm.

FOUR MEN HARD AT WORK

IN the little village of Kilbarchan in Renfrewshire four old men are working six days a week to produce hand-woven tartans which will bring more dollars to Britain. The bulk of their output is exported to America, where it is in great demand.

The four men are Mr Anderson and Mr Stewart, both 77, Mr Houston, who is 71, and young Mr Meikle, who is 69. They are the last of the hand-loom tartan weavers in what was once Scotland's leading tartan-weaving centre.

Working on looms older than themselves, and to which many makeshift repairs have been made, these old craftsmen still produce tartans of the Camerons and other famous Scottish clans.

They have seen the tartan hand-weavers disappear one by one, but a young ex-Serviceman, 27-year-old Bill Ashbury, is now learning the trade and he hopes to keep the industry alive.

JAPAN'S FIRST ENGLISHMAN

WILL ADAMS, the first Englishman to set foot in Japan, was commemorated the other day at Ito, a town on the east coast of Honshiu, when a tablet recording his arrival there more than three centuries ago was unveiled.

A two-day festival was held in honour of this plain Kentish sailor, whom the Japanese have never forgotten though he died among them as long ago as 327 years.

Will Adams has, indeed, become a legend among the Japanese for he was, perhaps, the first European to teach them the Western arts of shipbuilding, navigation, gunnery, and so on.

The story of how he got to Japan is a romance in itself. Will was born at Gillingham in Kent. He went to sea when he was 12, became a pilot, and in 1598 joined a Dutch fleet of five ships setting out to reach India by way of the Magellan Strait. After terrible hardships, only one ship of the five, Will Adams's vessel, the *Charity*, eventually found its way to the southern-most main island of Japan, Kiushiu, and anchored off Bungo Province.

A Ship For the Shogun

He was welcomed by the Japanese and sailed north to land at Ito when sent for by their ruler, Iyeyasu, the Shogun. Iyeyasu took a liking to the simple, honest, friendly mariner, the first Englishman he had seen. However, owing to the hostile advice of some Portuguese, who were already in Japan, Will was put in prison for six weeks, but he was not badly treated, and when he was released Iyeyasu ordered that he should be given an annual pension.

Adams built a small vessel of 80 tons for the Shogun, who was delighted with this new kind of ship. He was still more pleased when, as Adams wrote, "I learned him some points of geometry and understanding of the art of mathematics."

Iyeyasu conferred on Will what amounted to a feudal estate which, said Adams, was "like unto a lordship in England with 80 or 90 husbandmen that be as my slaves or servants."

Adams used his influence to obtain trading privileges for the Dutch. But all the time he was dreaming of the orchards of Kent and his wife and two

children. Unhappily, his request to be allowed to go home was one Iyeyasu refused to grant.

Then the exile heard that his own countrymen were trading with the East and he wrote to them asking for their help. In 1613 three English ships sailed into the Japanese harbour of Firando. Adams took their commander, Captain Saris, to Iyeyasu and obtained permission for the first English factory in Japan to be established.

In Foreign Seas

Iyeyasu at last consented to Adams leaving Japan. But now Will seems to have become obsessed with the idea of returning to England by way of a north-west passage, and, to raise money for this project, he entered the service of the new English trading company and led several voyages on his own account to Siam, Cochin-China, and elsewhere.

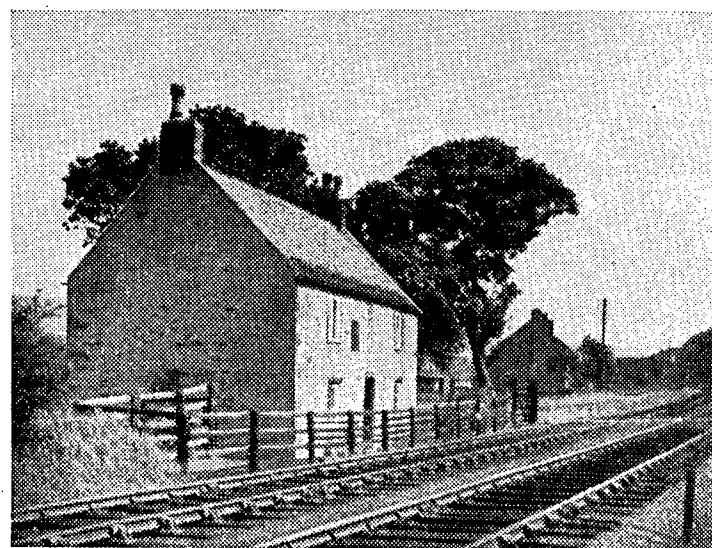
In 1616 his friend Iyeyasu died and the new Shogun was hostile to foreigners. Even Adams no longer had influence at court. To make matters worse the English company failed, the Dutch attacked their factory, and in 1620 poor Will died in this distant country. He was buried on his estate, where his tomb was found about 73 years ago.

There is a saying in the East that an old friend can never be an enemy, and it is in this spirit that the Japanese people have cherished the memory of Will Adams.

HMS Victory in Danger

NELSON's flagship, *Victory*, which is high and dry in Portsmouth Dockyard, is in danger of collapse. For many years the lowest deck of the old warrior has been attacked by the dreaded death-watch beetle, and, despite treatment of the 200-year-old beams, the beetles are boring deeper.

Thousands of visitors from home and abroad inspect the ship during the summer months as well as parties of sea cadets and other organisations. During one weekend recently 1500 people were conducted over the historic vessel.



THIS ENGLAND

George Stephenson's birthplace by the railway at Wylam, Northumberland

The Jet Dredger Shifts the Mud

AN interesting experiment in using a jet engine to clear mud from a river bed was made recently near Erith on the Thames below London.

The normal method of clearing mud from a river bed by a dredger with its chain of buckets is slow, expensive, and not entirely satisfactory, for the dredger only takes away the surface of submerged mud banks. It is hoped that the powerful blast of a jet engine will scoop out mud right down to the bottom layer, and the mud thus loosened will be carried away by the tide.

The idea of using a jet engine for this purpose was conceived last winter when one was used to clear snow from a railway line.

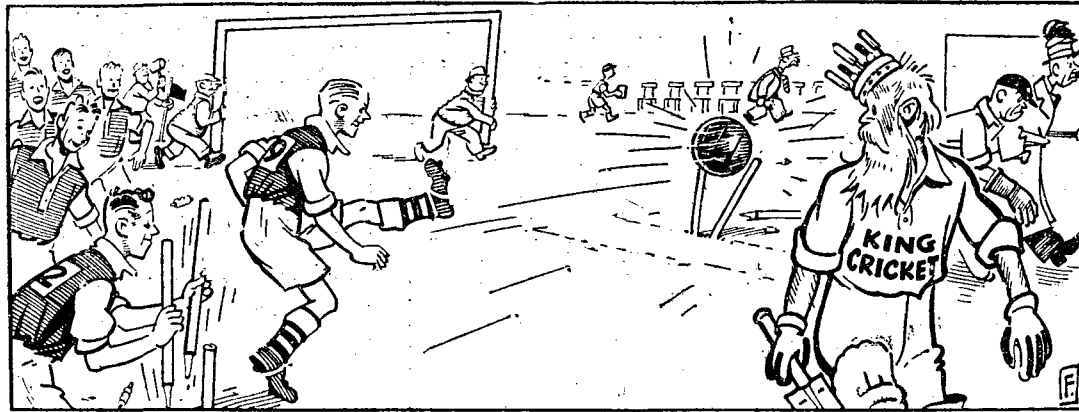
In the experiment at Erith a jet engine similar to those used in Meteor fighters was mounted on a barge. The nozzle of the turbine was pointed downwards and it blew air into the water at the rate of 40 lbs a second. A column of mud and water 20 feet high was sent up and remained in the air all the while the jet was working at full power. It was found that the jet had most effect on the mud when the water over it was three feet deep. At that depth the blast of air made two holes in a mudbank, one eight feet in diameter and the other ten feet.

BURNING THE DEVIL

ONCE again, at the Cleikum Festival held at Innerleithen, the "De'il" has been ceremonially "cleikit by the hint leg" and consigned to the flames so that the town may be rid of evil for another year.

St Ronan, an early Christian, and the patron saint of Innerleithen, is said to have treated the devil in this way, and the tradition is carried on every year now with the dux (top) boy of Innerleithen School acting as the saint, he and his attendant monks heading a torchlight procession to the top of Curley Hill, where an effigy of the devil is cast into a bonfire.

The End of the Innings—Football Takes Over



GOING TO SCHOOL IN SHAKESPEARE'S DAY

NEARLY everyone feels a little sad at having to return to school after the holidays. That sad feeling, however, soon vanishes because in these days there is so much enjoyment to be had at school. It would be difficult now to find schoolboys, even on the first day of term, "whining," as they crept like snails "unwillingly to school." Yet they did when Shakespeare was alive, for so he describes them in *As You Like It*.

Shakespeare and his companions at school enjoyed no long holidays. The only free days from school were the most important of the Church's holy days, and they were few.

Play and recreation for children was frowned upon by most adults, especially schoolmasters. Accord-

ing to one writer it drew the schoolboys' minds "utterly away from their books," and that after being allowed to play, "they are evermore the worst." Occasionally a kind-hearted master would reward the boys for good work and behaviour by allowing them part of an afternoon in which to enjoy themselves free from lessons. But that was given not more than once a week.

These schoolboys certainly deserved all the holidays they were granted. They worked very hard from six o'clock in the morning until half-past five or six o'clock in the evening. The only breaks were at midday for dinner and at nine in the morning and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. These last two were of a quarter of an hour each. Some

people even grumbled at the classes having these playtimes. It was feared that it might be thought the boys "do nothing but play."

So they were kept hard at Grammar—not English Grammar, but Latin mainly and very often Greek. The schools were called Grammar Schools for that very reason. Little else but these two subjects was taught. The actual Grammar and the works of Latin and Greek writers occupied every minute of their time. Schoolgirls have not been mentioned. In fact, there were none. Only the boys were allowed the privilege of being educated at schools. Perhaps the girls really did not mind, when they saw what their brothers endured at their schools!

The Museum on a Barrow

THE Fish Market in the romantic and historic town of Hastings has a museum which is unique. Its exhibits are brought to the museum from the trawl and trammel nets, to be displayed daily on an ordinary fish barrow; and the lecturers are swarthy fishermen, whose knowledge of the habits of sea creatures is profound. Each day, too, the museum is different, because for obvious reasons the specimens are destroyed each day.

Strange as it might seem, this museum had to fight 30 years for

its existence, and it was only recently that the fight was won.

The struggle began when Alfred George Riddle, in his early teens, had the idea of augmenting his pocket money by placing the curious types of fish from the nets on a box at the side of the boat and charging holiday-makers halfpenny a time to view them. A little girl friend acted as lookout for the policeman, and when he approached young Riddle and his young assistant made themselves scarce.

But Alfred Riddle never wavered in his determination to

get this peculiar museum established. Year by year he grew more ambitious and more daring. Gradually the police accepted the idea and this year, at long last, the Hastings Town Council expressed its approval. The little museum has been sanctioned and granted a licence.

Alfred Riddle is now senior lecturer of the museum he began. No charge is made, but visitors subscribe liberally in the box which is there and the proceeds help to swell deserving fishermen's charities or to give needy fisher folk a helping hand.

Putting the Earth on a Diet

By the earth, as on the Earth we live, and Dr W. G. Ogg of Rothamstead pointed out at Dundee the other day that more could be done for the improvement of health in the world today by providing ample supplies of food than in any other way.

But if the earth is to feed us we must feed the earth, and in feeding it give it the right rations even if the amount is not registered in calories. For example, fifty thousand additional tons of the food nitrogen would if rightly distributed give us an extra million tons of wheat or rice. Nitrogen makes the soil fertile, and Dr Ogg was careful to make clear that from long experience at Rothamstead, it makes small difference whether it is a natural or an artificial fertiliser. The artificial is not in short supply at any time.

But that is not all that the earth needs, for its food must be properly dieted. It wants all sorts of things, such as magnesium, sulphur, and iron in fairly large amounts, as well as traces of other elements, such as manganese, copper, zinc, and molybdenum. Apples may wilt without magnesium, and sulphur deficiency will give "tea yellows" to Ceylon tea.

RELIGIOUS FILMS STUDIO

AT Elstree in Hertfordshire—one of the famous homes of British film making—a new studio is being constructed and fitted and, when completed, will be available for any religious body of any denomination to use for making films from scripts of their own choice, on a non-commercial basis.

The man behind this fine move is Mr J. Arthur Rank, who has already done so much for British films.

When speaking to the World Sunday Schools Association about his new Elstree studio the other day, Mr Rank said that films would never replace sermons, but that they could provide a valuable background to religious education.

MR MIDSHIPMAN EASY—Captain Marryat's Great Story of the Sea, Told in Pictures



Just as the skipper of the fruit-boat and his men were about to knife them, Jack and Gascoigne shot the ruffians. Then a gale sprang up and, by themselves in the boat now, the midshipmen were driven on the coast of Sicily. A wave carried their boat into a cleft in the rocks, where it stuck long enough for the two lads to scramble safely ashore.



They tramped inland and slept in a cart under some straw. Next morning they heard screams coming from a big house nearby and, rushing in, they found two men with swords attacking an old gentleman, while two ladies tried to defend him. Gascoigne, who could speak Italian, ordered the assassins to drop their swords and be off, or he and Jack would shoot.



The old gentleman, Don Ribiera, was very grateful to the shipwrecked Englishmen. He explained that his attackers were bad characters who had a vendetta against him. Then Jack found that Don Ribiera's daughter, Agnes, was the young lady he had met when he captured the Carmen. She gratefully remembered his chivalry then. The two lads stayed a fortnight and Jack fell in love with Agnes.



They next went to Palermo, where they bought civilian suits and were royally entertained by Don Ribiera's friends. The two scamps gave a dinner party at their inn. Among the guests was Captain Tartar, R.N., who thought they were rich travellers. But when the other guests had left, Jack foolishly let out that he and Gascoigne were midshipmen. Captain Tartar nearly exploded!

Runaway midshipmen! What will the strict captain do? See next week's instalment

The Children's Newspaper, September 13, 1947

CLEVER TRICKS AT THE ZOO

By Our Own Correspondent

ELEPHANTS are naturally clever animals, and the London Zoo has had some very talented ones in its time. The "brainiest" now in the Gardens is undoubtedly four-year-old Rajah, one of three young Indian elephants that came from Ceylon last year. Ever since he arrived keepers have felt that Rajah had "more than his share of brains" (as one of the men put it). And Rajah's latest exploit seems to confirm this.

During the warmer months these young elephants, who live temporarily at the Gorilla House, are regularly hosed down by their keepers each morning.

Extra Shower Bath

The other day Rajah, having enjoyed his shower, watched the men coiling up the 30-foot hose-pipe in loops over the tap. When they had gone, the wily animal not only uncoiled the hose-pipe but turned the tap on with his trunk-tip. Then, holding the nozzle to his mouth, he took a long drink, after which, holding the pipe above his head, he gave himself another shower bath!

That, of course, was very clever of him; but he was so pleased with himself that he forgot to turn the tap off, and much water was wasted before the keepers again came on the scene. However, that will not happen again, for a fence has been erected around the tap.

This young elephant, by the way, is not the only clever animal in the Gardens just now. I could tell you of half a dozen others, but two shall suffice.

We do not usually credit the pig tribe with "brains," but there are exceptions. One of them you may see at the Gazelle Sheds, where Philip the South American peccary is making quite a name for himself. Often, when Philip is lying shut up in his bedroom he will hear one of his many human friends calling him from the far end of his paddock. Leaping to his feet, Philip opens his sliding-door by pushing the tip of his snout against it and giving a terrific heave to the right. The door opens, and out runs Philip—a bit sore in the snout, perhaps, but triumphant!

The Knowing Ass

At the Cattle Sheds there lives an Indian wild ass, named Susan.

When the keeper puts Susan out into the paddock in the morning he takes the opportunity of cleaning out her stall behind closed doors, so that Susan shall not get in his way. But he never has to call the wild ass in when he has finished his task. Susan tells him when she is ready to come in—by knocking with her forehoof at the door. As the keeper says: "It's a proper postman's knock—a good hard double rat-tat."

So much does this trick appeal to the public that the keeper often shuts Susan out of doors so that she may demonstrate her special accomplishment. Needless to say, it never fails to win her appreciation—and not infrequently a lot of titbits as well!

C. H.

The Children's Own Museum

WHEN Unesco's second big conference opens—in Mexico City on November 6—the delegates will see the benefits of visual education underlined by a colourful display of drawings by schoolchildren of London's East End. These drawings are the work of regular young visitors to the Geffrye Museum in Shoreditch—a museum which, now that it is again open to all, with all its rooms restored, assuredly deserves the renewed attentions of us all.

When the building was first planned by Lord Mayor Sir Robert Geffrye it was as almshouses where old folk could be happy in good neighbourhood with other old folk. Those snug cottages of George the First's time were set in a countryside that rapidly vanished, and so at last the almshouses were transported to Mottingham in Kent. Happily, the buildings were bought by the LCC and the Shoreditch Council, and in good time were established, in the midst of the furniture-making industry, as a museum for furniture craftsmen.

So the Geffrye Museum still is, but it has become something more—a Museum where everyone may find something to see and to admire, and, in particular, the Children's Own Museum.

A CN visitor who passed from the bustle of the Kingsland Road through the iron gates found himself on a wide green-sward with children scattered on it like autumn crocuses. A clump of them were round a trestle table supplied with enough paint to daub to their heart's content, or to apply as seriously to outlines of cat and dog, or pig or donkey, or what you will.

English Oak and Iron

On the farther side of this sylvan scene is the Museum itself, its main door opening into the Entrance Hall which once was the Chapel of the almshouses and still has the pulpit and the pews, and the white deal wainscoting. Inside, the visitor may turn preferably left, to begin the tour of the Museum's galleries. The first two exhibit the earliest purpose of the Museum: the education of the furniture craftsmen in the tools and materials of their craft. Out of very many things we may select the ancient kitchen ranges, with spits and jacks and firebacks, and between two of them a massive door from Newgate Prison, of English oak and wrought iron with fearsome lock and iron bolts.

These rooms continue till they give place to the series of period rooms of four centuries, each with its own furniture. The Elizabethan Room is the first, with the earliest oak panelling

and a fine Tudor mantelpiece taken from a Buckinghamshire post office, where it had strangely lingered. Two painted wooden figures give life to that room; one of them might be, but is not, Queen Elizabeth: the other is more like Walter Raleigh.

Then on to the Stuart Room, much more resplendent though it was taken bodily from the Masters Parlour of the Pewterers' Company in St Paul's Churchyard. It has an elaborately moulded ceiling, fine chairs, a guitar, and a wooden painted lady who might be the Duchess of Richmond of Charles II's court.

Good Old King Billy

William and Mary follow, but their period is split into two rooms, in one of which the finer furniture reveals the Dutch influence, though the painted wooden figure is more like the handsome Duke of Marlborough than the dark-faced King who only after he was dead was called "good old King Billy." The second section is that of a very spacious homely kitchen, rather beyond that time, but with everything handsome about it, even to the armchairs such as are still fashioned at High Wycombe.

Afterwards, with the Children's Own Room intervening, come the Georgian Rooms, furnished by Chippendale, Sheraton, Hepplewhite, and their assiduous imitators; and the Regency Room with a Broadwood Table Piano, an English barrel organ, a very early sewing machine, a beautiful late Adam sideboard and, not least, a child's punishment chair!

Period of Wax Flowers

And so, to conclude, a Victorian Room complete with wax flowers, embroidered chairs, and a steel engraving of the Iron Duke surveying from his Waterloo horse an assembly at Hyde Park Corner; and last of all a modern room with furniture in the austere form as prescribed by the Board of Trade.

Grown-ups may have their preference—solid Elizabethan or ornate Victorian, austere modern or dainty Georgian—the children love them all!

ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS

A MYSTERIOUS pyramid has been discovered in the mountainous regions of Western China. It was sighted from the air by Colonel Sheehan, Far Eastern director of Trans-World Airlines, who states that the pyramid is apparently much larger than the Great Pyramid of Cheops, in Egypt.

The ancient civilisation which built the newly-discovered pyramid has gone, leaving not a trace.

Even the memory of the pyramid had vanished until it was brought to light by Colonel Sheehan.

This has been the fate of other civilisations. Investigators are at present unearthing the ruins of temples and so on in the huge South American jungles. Other evidences of vanished civilisations have long been known in Mexico and on the western seaboard of America, notably those of the Incas and the Mayas.

"Don't want to go to bed - till I've had my **OXO!**"

How Bobbie loves his nightly cup of OXO. Children of all ages like its rich beefy flavour... wise mothers know that OXO's good for the whole family.

My! **OXO!**

BIRD'S CUSTARD

*Best known -
best liked*

BIRD'S CUSTARD AND JELLIES

THE BRAN TUB

THE REASON

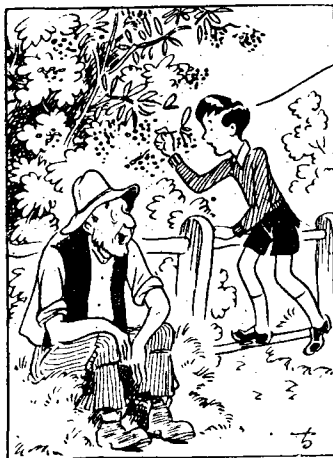
THE reporter was interviewing the centenarian. "To what do you attribute your health?" he asked.

"Well," replied the old man, "I reckon I've got less to worry about than most folk owing to the fact that I was born before germs were discovered!"

Maxim to Memorise

THE desire to be clever often prevents us from becoming so.

RODDY



"So these are elderberries. Can you get younger ones?"

A Travelling Tip

IT is no easy matter to write on a train or a bus that is travelling at speed, but if you take a tip from stewards and bus conductors it is not so difficult. They take care to press their elbows against their ribs, which largely prevents the free swinging of the arms caused by the motion of the train.

BEDTIME CORNER

The Missing Locket

BOBBY had been ill and was still unable to play with the other children, so he was sitting by the open window in the sunlight, with his books and toys. But he grew tired of reading and playing by himself, and when Mummy came in he had an idea.

"Can I have your locket to clean, Mummy," he asked. It was a lovely gold locket, and Bobby took a special delight in polishing it and keeping it bright and shining. His mother gave him the locket,

and Bobby placed it on the table and went to the cupboard to get a piece of cloth. But when he came back the locket had gone!

"Well I never!" exclaimed Bobby. Then a leaf fell into his lap and, looking up, he saw a cheeky magpie with the locket in his beak. Bobby gave a shout and the startled thief fluttered up and the locket fell from his beak.

"Well," said Bobby, "I never knew that magpies were such thieves." But they are.

If I Could Go to School

WHY can't I go to school each day

With other girls and boys?

Why must I stay at home and play

Alone with all my toys?

If I could go to school with them,

I would be very good,

If I could have my little pen,

My desk all made of wood.

But Mummy says I'm only small,

And still too young to go;

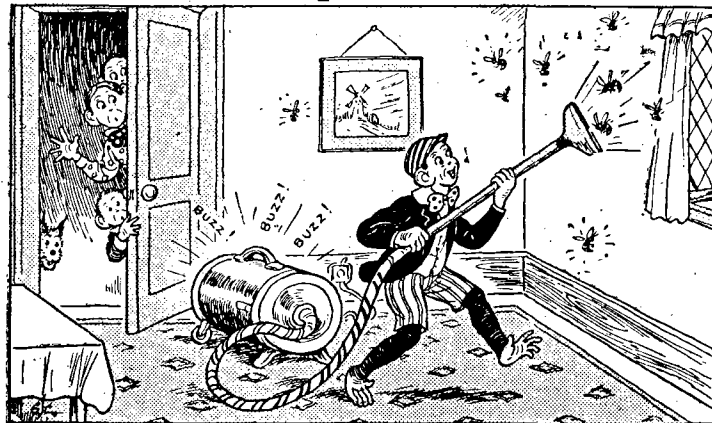
I'll have to stand beside the wall

Until I grow and grow.

ONCE UPON A TIME



Jacko's "Operation Buzz"



THE Jacko household had been invaded by a swarm of wasps and no one dared venture into the dining-room for fear of being stung. Then Jacko had an idea—Operation Buzz, as he called it. He got the vacuum cleaner and then went forth to do battle. It was difficult to tell which made the most noise—the vacuum cleaner, or the wasps, or Jacko as he uttered shrill war cries. "At any rate," he chuckled, "there'll be no bees in our bonnets—or do I mean wasps."

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

A Winged Ghost. "What moth is that?" Don asked Farmer Gray, pointing to a silvery-coloured moth which hovered above the grass.

"Where?" asked the farmer.

"It seems to have gone," said Don in puzzled tones. "There it is," he added, as the moth suddenly appeared again.

"It is a ghost moth," said Farmer Gray. "The underside of the wings is dark brown. That is the reason it appears and disappears so rapidly. In the dusk, only the silvery-white side is visible. The yellowish-white caterpillar of this moth lives underground and exists on various roots."

Dilemma

SAMMY SIMPLE says he has lost his spectacles and he can't look for them until he has found them.

Other Worlds

IN the evening Jupiter is low in the south-west. In the morning Saturn is in the east and Mars is in the south-east. The picture shows the moon at 7.30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 10.



The Wanderer

SAM lost himself once in a lane, And began to inquire and complain, "What's become of poor Sam? I shan't know where I am Till I find myself somewhere again."

Beheading

I'M a character by Dickens drawn, A boy who knew a tyrant's power. Behead me and I'm still a boy (Or what the BBC employ). Behead again, and still—oh, joy—I live. I'm General Eisenhower.

Answer next week

Children's Hour

BBC Programmes from Wednesday, September 10, to Tuesday, September 16

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 The Tinder Box, by Hans Andersen. 5.30 Piano. North, 5.0 Wandering with Nomad; Inter-County Book Quiz. Scottish, 5.30 Ballads of Scotland. Welsh, 5.0 Dark Adventure—a story; Young Artists; Country talk.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Four Plus Bunkle (Part 2). Welsh, 5.0 Awr Y Plant (in Welsh). 5.30 Thomas Turkey and the Thieves—a story; Sports Roundabout.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Tuckatown—a story; Variety. N. Ireland, 5.0 Mr Murphy and Timothy John; The Panjandrum Whose Tail Turned Up; Nature Diary; Young Artists.

SATURDAY, 5.0 Talk about Norway; Stories from the Ballet, with music. North, 5.0 Young Artists from the Isle of Man; Quiz. Scottish, 5.0 Tom, Dick, and Harry (No 3); Mr Simister is Unlucky (3).

SUNDAY, 5.0 Isle of Man feature. Scottish, 5.0 Castles of Scotland—Dunbar Castle.

MONDAY, 5.0 The Absent-minded Squirrel—a story; Piano; Talk. Midland, 5.0 The Great Bear—a play; Songs by Arne.

TUESDAY, 5.0 How the Sea Became Salt—a play; Violin. Scottish, 5.40 Rossaidh (in Celtic).

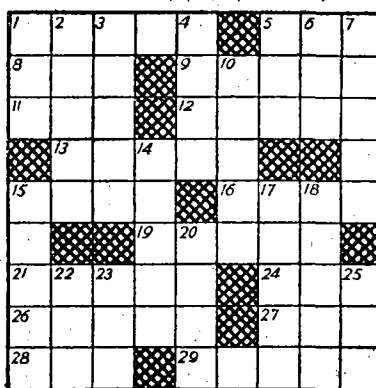
Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across: 1 A fox's tail. 5 A pet notion. 8 A melody. 9 To grow less, as of floods. 11 A small strip, as part of a garment. 12 A South African honey-badger. 13 Called. 15 Famous European volcano. 16 Colour of ashes. 19 Subdued light. 21 To disentangle. 24 A mischievous child. 26 Tranquillity. 27 Tract of grassland. 28 Five twos. 29 Corroded.

Reading Down: 1 Cricket implement. 2 Cheerful. 3 Of the city or town. 4 He is said to be mad in March. 5 Plump. 6 Devoured. 7 Postponement. 10 A sign of office. 14 Wizardry. 15 What volcanoes do. 17 These are usually parallel and in pairs. 18 An ant. 20 A sideways glance. 22 Indicates a woman's maiden name. 23 Sunburn. 25 To settle an account.

Answer next week

The Children's Newspaper, September 13, 1947



A Catch Question

WHY should a cock be the best groomed of birds? Because he carries a comb.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Old Testament Characters

The names hidden in the verse were: Abel, Asa, Ahab, Adam, Ruth, Lot, Eve, Eli.

ÆSOP-TO-DATE



THE ELEPHANT AND THE FOOLISH SQUIRREL

An Elephant one day observed a Squirrel dropping nuts into a pool. "Why do you not store them for the winter—as the wiser squirrels do?" asked the Elephant. "I can only store one nut at a time," answered the squirrel, "and it seems such slow work. So I'm making a jolly little splash instead." "Foolish Creature!" said the Elephant. "When you really want the nuts, you will have none."

To-day's Moral to this Savings Fable is:

If you're wise, and save some money week by week, you'll have a nice store for when you wish to buy something special. But if, instead, you make a "jolly little splash" and spend it every week—then, when you really want the money, you will have none.

NATIONAL SAVINGS STAMPS

Issued by the National Savings Committee